

UPR of Palau – Statement of Japan

21 January 2016

Thank you, Mr. President,

Japan warmly welcomes the delegation of Palau to this session.

Japan commends Palau for its conduction of human rights awareness programs in areas such as gender equality. As a friend in the same Asia-Pacific region that also places great importance on universal values including human rights, we expect Palau's continued cooperation with the international community to protect and promote human rights.

We welcome Palau's signing of the core human rights treaties in 2011 and its ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2013. Japan **recommends** Palau to continue its efforts to ratify the main human rights treaties without delay, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR).

We express our concern at reports of prisoners being held under appalling conditions due to deterioration of prisons and lack of space therein. Japan **recommends** Palau to improve its prison environments as part of a wider effort to protect and promote the human rights of prisoners.

Thank you, Mr. President.